

REMARKS

The granting of an interview by Examiner Tri M. Mai, and the courtesy and professionalism of Examiner Mai are sincerely appreciated, especially in reviewing the proposed affidavit of commercial success and the invention model presented by Inventor Mr. Albritton.

As a result of the discussions during the interview, and the suggestions of Examiner Mai, this Amendment is presented.


The claims 1-23, 28-31 and 33 are canceled. The claims 24-27, 32, 34, 35, and 37-44 are amended to particularly claim a backpack configuration and to more clearly state the claims. In addition, Figures 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 16 and 18 are being deleted.

In regard to the obviousness rejections in the last Office action (Paper No. 12) mailed 25 July 2003, the arguments presented in Applicant's previous Amendment after final are incorporated herein.

Notwithstanding the citation of the prior art, which does not show Applicant's invention as argued in the above-referenced Amendment after final, Applicant submits that the Affidavit of Commercial Success overwhelmingly confirms that a need exists for Applicant's invention.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests an allowance of the amended claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert E. Bushnell
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No.: 27,774

1522 "K" Street N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 408-9040

Folio: P56341
Date: 21 November 2003
I.D.: REB/FJD